

IN THE CLAIMS

All pending claims are produced below. Please amend claims 1, 5, 17, 21, 33, 36, 41, 42 and 54 as indicated herein. In addition, the status of each is also indicated below and appropriately noted as “Original,” “Currently Amended,” “Canceled,” “New,” “Withdrawn,” “Previously Presented” and “Not Entered” as requested by the Office.

1. (Currently Amended) A traffic manager for facilitating communication between a client node and a server node in a distributed computing environment in accordance with at least one policy, the server node having a first interface associated therewith, the traffic manager capable of communicating with both the client node and the server node and comprising a central processing unit which is operable to:
communicate with the server node via the first interface;
generate and publish at least a second interface, for communication with the first interface, in accordance with said at least one policy, the at least one policy mapping the first interface to the second interface; and
communicate with the client node via the second interface, thereby allowing the client node to access at least one service on the server node via the traffic manager in accordance with the at least one policy.
2. (Previously Presented) The traffic manager of claim 1, wherein the first and second interfaces comprise Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) interfaces.
3. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 2, wherein the SOAP interfaces employ Extensible Markup Language (XML).
4. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 2, wherein each of the first and second interfaces has a description language file associated therewith defining the associated interface.
5. (Currently Amended) The traffic manager of claim 1, wherein the first interface includes ~~corresponds to~~ one of HTTP, TCP, HTTPS, HTTPR, and MQ.

6. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 1, wherein the distributed computing environment includes a network corresponding to a single enterprise including the server node, and wherein the client node is external to the network.

7. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 1, wherein the distributed computing environment includes a network corresponding to a single enterprise and including both the client and server nodes.

8. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 1, wherein the at least one policy includes requiring authorization by a human operator for invocation of the at least one service.

9. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 1, wherein the at least one policy includes mapping an organizational role to a person.

10. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 9, wherein the mapping of the organizational role to the person is done using an LDAP directory associated with the distributed computing environment.

11. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 1, wherein the at least one policy is a security policy.

12. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 11, wherein the security policy is associated with encryption or decryption of at least a portion of data which is exchanged between the client and the server.

13. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 11, wherein the security policy is associated with generating or verifying at least one digital signature for at least one portion of data which is exchanged between the client and the server.

14. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 11, wherein the security policy is associated with protection against service attacks.

15. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 1, wherein the at least one policy is associated with enforcing policies with respect to publication or access to the first or second interfaces.

16. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 1, wherein the at least one policy is associated with review of data communicated between the server and client nodes.

17. (Currently Amended) A traffic manager for facilitating communication between a plurality of nodes in a distributed computing environment, each of the nodes having a primary interface associated therewith, the traffic manager comprising a central processing unit which is operable to generate and publish a plurality of intermediate interfaces for communication with each of which corresponds to one of the primary interfaces, each of the intermediate interfaces being generated according to at least one policy, the at least one policy mapping the one of the primary interfaces to the intermediate interfaces, and allowing each of the nodes to access at least one service on at least one other one of the nodes.

18. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 17, wherein the primary and intermediate interfaces comprise of at least one Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) interface.

19. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 18, wherein the at least one SOAP interface employs Extensible Markup Language (XML).

20. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 18, wherein each of the primary and intermediate interfaces has a description language file associated therewith defining the associated interface.

21. (Currently Amended) The traffic manager of claim 17, wherein the primary interface includes ~~corresponds to~~ one of HTTP, TCP, HTTPS, HTTPR, and MQ.

22. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 17, wherein the distributed computing environment includes a network corresponding to a single enterprise including the server node and wherein the client node is external to the network.

23. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 17, wherein the distributed computing environment includes a network corresponding to a single enterprise and including both the client and server nodes.

24. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 17, wherein the at least one policy includes requiring authorization by a human operator for invocation of the at least one service.

25. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 17, wherein the at least one policy includes mapping an organizational role to a person.

26. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 25, wherein the mapping of the organizational role to the person is done using an LDAP directory associated with the distributed computing environment.

27. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 17, wherein the at least one policy is a security policy.

28. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 27, wherein the security policy is associated with encryption or decryption of at least a portion of data which is exchanged between the client and the server.

29. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 27, wherein the security policy is associated with generating or verifying at least one digital signature for at least one portion of data which is exchanged between the client and the server.

30. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 27, wherein the security policy is associated with protection against service attacks.

31. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 17, wherein the at least one policy is associated with enforcing policies with respect to publication or access to the first or second interfaces.

32. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 17, wherein the at least one policy is associated with review of data communicated between the server and client nodes.

33. (Currently Amended) A traffic manager for facilitating communication between a client node and a server node in a distributed computing environment, the server node having a first SOAP interface associated therewith, the traffic manager comprising a central processing unit which is operable to:

communicate with the server node via the first SOAP interface;

generate and publish a second SOAP interface ~~for communication with corresponding~~
~~to~~ the first SOAP interface according to at least one policy, wherein the at least one policy maps the first SOAP interface to the second SOAP interface;
and

communicate with the client node via the second SOAP interface, thereby allowing the client node to access at least one service on the server node in accordance with the at least one policy.

34. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 33, wherein the SOAP interfaces employ Extensible Markup Language (XML).

35. (Previously Presented) The traffic manager of claim 33, wherein each of the first and second SOAP interfaces has a description language file associated therewith defining the associated interface.

36. (Currently Amended) The traffic manager of claim 33, wherein each of the first and second SOAP interface includes ~~corresponds to~~ one of HTTP, TCP, HTTPS, HTTPR, and MQ.

37. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 33, wherein the at least one policy is a security policy.

38. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 37, wherein the security policy is associated with protection against service attacks.

39. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 33, wherein the at least one policy is associated with enforcing policies with respect to publication or access to the first or second interfaces.

40. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 33, wherein the at least one policy is associated with review of data communicated between the server and client nodes.

41. (Currently Amended) A traffic manager for facilitating communication between a plurality of nodes in a distributed computing environment, each of the nodes having a primary SOAP interface associated therewith, the traffic manager comprising a central processing unit which is operable to generate and publish a plurality of intermediate SOAP interfaces, ~~each of which corresponds to~~ for communication with one of the primary SOAP interfaces, each of the intermediate SOAP interfaces being generated according to at least one policy, the at least one policy mapping the one of the primary interfaces to the intermediate interfaces, and allowing each of the nodes to access at least one service on at least one other one of the nodes.

42. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of managing traffic between server and client programs, the method comprising:
identifying a first SOAP interface associated with a server program;
generating at least a second SOAP interface ~~corresponding to~~ for communication with
the first SOAP interface according to at least one policy, the at least one
policy mapping the first SOAP interface to the second SOAP interface; and
wherein the client program can use the second SOAP interface to request one or more services.

43. (Original) A method as recited in claim 42, wherein the method comprises:
receiving a SOAP message through the second interface from the client program; and
processing the SOAP message in accordance with at least one rule.

44. (Original) A method as recited in claim 42, wherein the at least one policy includes requiring authorization by a human operator for invocation of the at least one service.

45. (Original) A method as recited in claim 42, wherein the at least one policy includes mapping an organizational role to a person.

46. (Original) A method as recited in claim 42, wherein the mapping of the organizational role to the person is done using an LDAP directory associated with the distributed computing environment.

47. (Original) A method as recited in claim 42, wherein the at least one policy is a security policy.

48. (Original) A method as recited in claim 47, wherein the security policy is associated with encryption or decryption of at least a portion of data which is exchanged between the client and the server.

49. (Original) A method as recited in claim 47, wherein the security policy is associated with generating or verifying at least one digital signature for at least one portion of data which is exchanged between the client and the server.

50. (Original) The traffic manager of claim 47, wherein the security policy is associated with protection against service attacks.

51. (Original) A method as recited in claim 42, wherein the at least one policy is associated with enforcing policies with respect to publication or access to the first or second interfaces.

52. (Original) A method as recited in claim 42, wherein the at least one policy is associated with review of data communicated between the server and client nodes.

53. (Original) A computer readable medium having computer program instructions stored therein for performing the method of claim 42.

54. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for facilitating communication between server and client programs, the method comprising:

reading a WSDL file associated with a first SOAP interface to at least one server program; and
generating at least a second SOAP interface for communication with corresponding to the first SOAP interface in accordance with at least one policy, the at least one policy mapping the first SOAP interface to the second SOAP interface;
wherein at least one client program can use the second SOAP interface to request one or more services.

55. (Original) A method as recited in claim 54, wherein the method further comprises:

reading a first UDDI file which lists the first SOAP interface;
generating or publishing a second WSDL file which describes the second SOAP interface; and
creating or updating at least one UDDI entry associated with the generated or published WSDL file.

56. (Original) A computer readable medium having computer program instructions stored therein for performing the method of claim 54.

57. (Canceled)